

Florin Japanese American Citizens League  
Oral History Project

Oral History Interview

with

**PAUL TAKEHARA**

May 8, 1991  
Sacramento, California

By Kinya Noguchi  
Florin Japanese American Citizens League  
and Oral History Program  
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Sacramento, California





# JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

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## PREFACE

In the summer of 1987, a small group of people from the Florin JACL met at Mary and Al Tsukamoto's home to plan a new project for the organization. Because of the unique history of Florin, we felt that there were special stories that needed to be preserved. The town of Florin, California was once a thriving farming community with a large Japanese American population. The World War II internment of persons of Japanese ancestry living on the west coast, devastated the town and it never recovered. Today there is no town of Florin; it has been merged into the larger county of Sacramento. Many Japanese Americans who reside throughout the United States, however, have their origins from Florin, or have relatives and friends who once had ties to this community. The town may no longer exist, but the spirit of the community continues to survive in people's hearts and memories.

Several hours have been devoted to interviewing former Florin residents. The focus of the interviews was on the forced internment and life in the relocation camps, but our questions touched on other issues. We asked about their immigration to the United States from Japan, pre-war experiences, resettlement after the war and personal philosophies. We also wanted to record the stories of the people left behind. They were friends and neighbors who watched in anguish as the trains transported the community away.

We have conducted these interviews with feelings of urgency. If we are to come away with lessons from this historic tragedy, we must listen to and become acquainted with the people who were there. Many of these historians are in their 70's, 80's and 90's. We are grateful that they were willing to share their experiences and to answer our questions with openness and thoughtfulness.

We owe special thanks to James F. Carlson, former Assistant Dean of American River College and to Jackie Reinier, former Director of the Oral History Program at California State University in Sacramento. Without their enthusiasm, encouragement and expertise, we never could have produced this collection of oral histories. We also wish to acknowledge the project members, volunteers, the Florin JACL which contributed financial support, Sumitomo Bank for their corporate donation, and the Taisho Young Mens Association which contributed some of their assets as they dissolved their corporation on December 31, 1991.



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## INTERVIEW HISTORY

### INTERVIEWER

Kinya Noguchi was a Deputy Sheriff with the rank of Lieutenant before his retirement. He is a member of the VFW Nisei Post 8985. He had graduated from Sacramento State University in Business Administration with graduate work in Public Administration.

### INTERVIEW TIME AND PLACE

May 8, 1991  
Insurance office of Paul Takehara  
6220 Belleau Wood Lane  
Sacramento, California 95822

### TRANSCRIBING AND EDITING

Joanne Iritani, Florin JACL member, Education Chair, and retired special education teacher with a master's degree from California State University, Bakersfield.

### PHOTOGRAPHER

Pictures were reproduced by Dan Inouye Florin JACL member.

### TAPES AND INTERVIEW RECORDS

Copies of the bound transcript and the tapes will be kept by the Florin Japanese American Citizens League and in the University Archives at the Library, California State University, Sacramento, 6000 J Street, Sacramento, California 95819.



## BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY

In 1905, Paul Takehara's father, Kikumatsu Takehara emigrated to the United States from Yamaguchi Ken, Japan. After working on the railroads around Florin, California, he worked in a fish market. Five years later, his wife, Tami Kawanishi Takehara arrived. They later began farming in the Eldercreek area with grapes and strawberries as the main crops and moved to the Jackson-Bradshaw area where they farmed successfully. Forty five acres and 120 acres of land was purchased with the assistance of his brother-in-law Mr. Kawanishi who was a U.S. citizen following service in the U.S. military during World War I. The Alien Land Law had prevented the purchase of land by the Takeharas. Later land was purchased by the sons who were U.S. citizens by birth.

Paul Takehara was born the fifth of eight children on April 25, 1918, in the Eldercreek area. He attended the Sierra Grammar School, Sacramento Stanford Junior High School, and graduated from Sacramento Senior High School. Paul then completed his studies at Heald's Business College, and worked for the Florin Berry Company.

Paul volunteered to serve in the army prior to World War II, March, 1941. When the war started, he was stationed at Camp Claiborne, Louisiana where he was assigned to the 34th Infantry Division. He was the only Japanese American GI, and experienced no racial problems



with the Caucasian soldiers. He rose in rank to Sergeant First Class. It was not until he applied to the OCS (Officer Candidate School) that he became aware of racial prejudice when he was rejected as he put it, "because I was 'Jap'."

Prior to going overseas, Paul married Emmie Tachibana in Kansas City. Emmie stayed in Chicago while Paul was overseas.

Because he was assigned to the Personnel Department of his unit, Paul was able to obtain a pass to see his parents in Poston, Arizona Internment Center and his brothers in Tule Lake, California Internment Center. His brother was transferred to the Tule Lake Center after answering, "No-No" to the key loyalty questions.

After discharge from the Army in 1946, Paul and Emmie started a grocery store on the corner of Jackson and Bradshaw Roads. It is known as Walsh Station. Having little funds to start, they made bricks to put up the building. Over the years of hard work and good planning, Paul became a very successful business man. In 1958, he began the Takehara Insurance Associates which is now owned by his son Gerald Takehara.

Paul was a charter member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Nisei Post 8985 which was formed in 1947. He was the eighth Commander of the Post and served many years as the Post Quartermaster.

Around 1970, Paul became actively involved in the Florin JACL. He served as Newsletter Editor, Treasurer, and Chapter President several times. He was involved with the Redress and Reparation Committee spear headed by Mary Tsukamoto.



Since his retirement from the insurance business, and the sale of his property, Paul continues to assist his son Gerald at the office. He is a family oriented person, enjoys sharing quality time with Emmie and their three children, Gerald, Paula, and Steve, and their six grandchildren.

Paul is a very positive person. He overcame his bout with the deadly disease cancer some years ago. He enjoys his time on the golf course, traveling, and being actively involved with many retiree organizations.

It was truly my pleasure to have had this opportunity to interview Paul Takehara.

by Kinya Noguchi



[Begin Tape 1, Side 1]

NOGUUCHI: Oral History Program, Center for California Studies, California State University, and the person to be interviewed this morning will be Paul Takehara. For the records, will you give me your name?

TAKEHARA: Paul Takehara.

NOGUUCHI: Okay. Can you give me your parents' names? Father, Mother?

TAKEHARA: First names?

NOGUUCHI: Yes.

TAKEHARA: Kikumatsu Takehara is my father, and Tami Kawanishi Takehara is my mother.

NOGUUCHI: And from what part of Japan did they come from?

TAKEHARA: Yamaguchi-ken, Oshima Gun, Jikamuro.

NOGUUCHI: Do you know what year they arrived in the United States?

TAKEHARA: I think my dad came in 1905, and my mother came approximately five years later.

NOGUUCHI: Was she involved in what they call "shashin kekkon"? (Picture Brides) Or was it a love affair, or was it arranged by their parents?

TAKEHARA: I believe they were. . . . They knew each other previously.



NOGUCHI: And from Japan, where did they arrive, San Francisco or Seattle?

TAKEHARA: I think. . . . Oh, they arrived in San Francisco.

NOGUCHI: They arrived in San Francisco. So they went to the island off of Tiburon Bay.

TAKEHARA: Yes, yes.

NOGUCHI: And from there, where did they go?

TAKEHARA: They came to the Florin area and presumably my dad worked on the railroad. And later, a few years later, he ran a store for the neighbors, a fish market.

NOGUCHI: Was this in Sacramento or Florin?

TAKEHARA: Florin.

NOGUCHI: Oh, Florin. And was this before your mother arrived or was this while he was still a bachelor?

TAKEHARA: No, previously.

NOGUCHI: Then after your mother arrived, what did he do? Continue to work in the store?

TAKEHARA: No, he started farming in the Eldercreek area.

NOGUCHI: Oh, Eldercreek? And what did he raise?

TAKEHARA: Strawberries. And grapes.

NOGUCHI: When did the family start?

TAKEHARA: My brother was born in 1909, my oldest brother.

NOGUCHI: And how many to follow?

TAKEHARA: Eight all together.



NOGUCHI: And you're where?

TAKEHARA: I'm number five.

NOGUCHI: You're number five. And you had how many brothers?

TAKEHARA: I've got five brothers totally, and three sisters.

NOGUCHI: Can you tell me about something exciting that happened in your family while you were a child? Can you remember some of the things you did as a child? Or what you were involved in?

TAKEHARA: Well, after leaving Eldercreek, we were pioneers to move into the Jackson and Bradshaw Road area. My dad purchased forty five acres there, right in the corner, the northeast corner of Jackson and Bradshaw. He had to pull in the electrical line all the way from Jackson Highway down Bradshaw, presently Bradshaw, about a quarter of a mile. That's when we had our water, and we started planting strawberries and grapes. We took our strawberries and grapes by horse and wagon all the way to Florin town, which is approximately eight miles, and this was our daily chore. And since I was knee-high to a grasshopper, I went with my dad to Florin to unload strawberries or grapes whenever possible.

NOGUCHI: Did your mother or father ever talk about what had happened to them when they were in Japan? Why they came to the United States? Did they ever talk about that?



TAKEHARA: No, I don't know anything about that?

NOGUCHI: Did they ever talk about their families in Japan?

TAKEHARA: Oh, yes, many times, but I don't recall hardly any of it.  
But I do know we had alot of relatives there. My dad and  
my dad's brother both started off the same time.

NOGUCHI: To the United States?

TAKEHARA: To the United States.

NOGUCHI: Oh, then where did your uncle go?

TAKEHARA: My uncle got sick on the way, and so they made a short  
stop in Hawaii. My uncle stayed in Hawaii and my dad came  
directly to California.

NOGUCHI: So that is the reason why you have cousins in. . .

TAKEHARA: I have lots and lots of first cousins in Hawaii.

NOGUCHI: And he was the oldest?

TAKEHARA: He was the younger brother.

NOGUCHI: Oh, the younger brother.

TAKEHARA: Yes.

NOGUCHI: So they came together, "kyodai" (siblings) together.

TAKEHARA: "Kyodai", yes.

NOGUCHI: That's interesting. And then your mom's side? Did she  
ever talk about her family?

TAKEHARA: Well, they're, I believe they were second cousins. Second  
cousins, so they knew each other very well. It happened  
to many families in Japan because they were afraid of blood



. . . . What do you call it? In case of blood and sickness, whatever it is.

NOGUCHI: Yes, I know.

TAKEHARA: Genes, I guess. But anyway.

NOGUCHI: Was this relationship a love affair, or was it arranged through the parents?

TAKEHARA: It must have been arranged through the parents. Japanese custom.

NOGUCHI: So it was a love affair then.

TAKEHARA: Yes.

NOGUCHI: So as you grew up there, Paul, can you recall some of the things that, besides doing all this work taking care of the farm, driving to Florin in the horse and buggy days . . . . Which school did you attend?

TAKEHARA: We went to Sierra School which is approximately two miles from my house, and we walked to school daily. And then from there we went to Sacramento Stanford Junior High School for two years. At the old Stanford Junior High School which was on the west side of Broadway. And a year later they completed Stanford Junior High School, on the east side on Sacramento Boulevard, wasn't it? And then we went on to Sacramento High School for two years, and graduated Sacramento High School.



NOGUCHI: Were your neighbors in that area Japanese, or were they Caucasians?

TAKEHARA: Our neighbor was Caucasian. And then approximately 1927, '28, or '29, a group from Oak Park area moved into Mayhew, so-called Mayhew, on the north of Jackson Highway, which consisted of Kawamuras, Machidas, Ogawas, Deguchis, Satows, Kobatas. All those Mayhew people came in from Oak Park area.

NOGUCHI: So how did you get along with them, as far as relationships with their families?

TAKEHARA: Oh, all right. I even joined the Mayhew Baptist Church Club.

NOGUCHI: Oh, I see, that's where it got started down there. So as far as getting along with fellow students, there was no problem?

TAKEHARA: No problem.

NOGUCHI: As far as your dad's business of farming, did it go well during the early years?

TAKEHARA: Yes, my dad did succeed. And then when my brother Herbert got older, he purchased 120 acres right next to us, which made 165 acres total, and they divided eighty acres to brother Herbert Masashi, and forty acres to brother Jim, or Torao, and the original forty five acres was put into



Paul, Tom and George's names because my dad was an alien and was not able to purchase land.

NOGUCHI: So who originally purchased that forty five acres then?

TAKEHARA: My uncle Kawanishi was a citizen. He's a World War I veteran and he had citizenship, so he purchased in his name for maybe about ten years, I guess. We were not old enough to have it in our names.

NOGUCHI: It seems as though the Taharas did the same thing. Father purchased their land through another person until the son was old enough to. . .

TAKEHARA: I don't know.

NOGUCHI: So you got along pretty good with all the people within that area that moved in from the Oak Park area.

TAKEHARA: Oh, yes. There were the Iwasas and Hashimotos, Takemotos.

NOGUCHI: Did you have any kind of activity, or any kind of a program?

TAKEHARA: Well, Mayhew always did have a baseball and basketball team, and we were right in between the borderline of Taishoku, which I went for kendo and judo. Social and church, we went to Mayhew, and with my parents, for more serious things we went to Florin Buddhist Church, my parents being Buddhist.

NOGUCHI: So you had close ties to. . .

TAKEHARA: All three.



NOGUCHI: So the relationship between of the different churches was pretty good then.

TAKEHARA: The first church that we went to, well we had our Japanese School in Taishoku which I attended and the church was, I mean the school was taught by Mr. Kobayashi. And for church activities, we went to Mayhew, and for movies and big items, you know, anything to do with Bukkyokai, my dad took us to Florin Buddhist.

NOGUCHI: So your dad was what then?

TAKEHARA: He was a Buddhist.

NOGUCHI: And his family kinda had an interfaith, where they went to the Baptist church or the Methodist church. . . .

TAKEHARA: Well, we went to Mayhew Church. Our children became Baptist.

NOGUCHI: So as far as your activities then, it was centered around the Japanese community.

Well, how did it go during the depression? How did your family survive during the depression?

TAKEHARA: We didn't have too much problem during the depression because we had the farm. As far as the money is concerned, I don't know enough about it, I suppose we were kinda low. But as far as the vegetables and fruits are concerned, we had plenty of food, because we grew them on the farm.



- NOGUCHI: Was it about that time that they started to develop that area around where you now reside on Jackson Road there? Like the military base. . . . Was Mather field. . .
- TAKEHARA: Mather Field was there before we got there. They were flying those two-winged planes over our barn.
- NOGUCHI: So, during the depression you had no problems, but as the forties, the late thirties and the forties, did any changes take place as far as your relationship in the community? Between the Japanese and the Caucasians?
- TAKEHARA: No, not really.
- NOGUCHI: They didn't react to Japan invading China. . .
- TAKEHARA: No.
- NOGUCHI: You didn't feel any kind of racial feelings?
- TAKEHARA: Actually there weren't too many Caucasians around our area anyway, except for the pioneer farmers—such as the Fairbairns and the Barmbys.
- NOGUCHI: Were the Lagomarsinos out there too.
- TAKEHARA: No.
- NOGUCHI: Oh, they were pretty much in the city, because I'd heard that Mrs. Lagomarsino used to be a midwife and delivered alot of the Japanese children out there. So prior to the war then you really had no problems as far as your relationships with other ethnic groups then.
- TAKEHARA: No, no problems, whatsoever.



NOGUCHI: Did the Japanese community kinda grow just before the evacuation, when things were going very well, or things were going bad, or. . .

TAKEHARA: Yes, I think the Japanese community was pretty well off at that time in the forties.

NOGUCHI: And in the late thirties, you were already an adult then?

TAKEHARA: Well, yes. I was, I graduated in '36 from Sacramento High School, and then I went on to Heald's Business College. I hardly worked at the farm. I went to work at the Florin Berry Company where my dad owned part of it.

NOGUCHI: Oh, I see. What was your feeling when the war started? You were of age. . .

TAKEHARA: I was of age. I was in Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, when the war started.

NOGUCHI: Oh, you'd already joined the army prior to. . .

TAKEHARA: Oh, I was in there March '41.

NOGUCHI: Oh, March '41. Was there anybody else that went with you? Or joined at that time?

TAKEHARA: No, I was kinda early. I was one of the earlier ones because I volunteered into the service.

NOGUCHI: And what was the reason for wanting to volunteer?

TAKEHARA: One year selective service. [Laughter] I ended up with five years.



NOGUCHI: Oh, for that reason then, you joined the army to get your obligation as far as your military is concerned.

TAKEHARA: Yes. I'd just got out of college, and I was ready to go to work. I was faced with the draft, so I volunteered.

NOGUCHI: Was there anybody else that joined besides you from the community there?

TAKEHARA: There were a few people that were drafted like Jack Kawamura that I know of, that were drafted a few months later.

NOGUCHI: Then, when you went into the camp, boot camp, were there any other Nihonjin there or Japanese?

TAKEHARA: Very few.

NOGUCHI: Anybody from this area?

TAKEHARA: Not that I know of. Let me see. I went to Fort Ord on March the seventh. Stayed there for about four days. Learned how to make the bed, the Army way. Throw a coin on top of the blanket to see if it bounced or not. And then they assigned and shipped us to Camp Roberts, California, near San Luis Obispo. Camp Roberts was under construction, so it was a mud city during the rainy days. I stayed there for basic training for four months. I was mostly used in the secretarial pool. And after four months, we were assigned to Camp Claiborne, Louisiana in the 34th



Infantry Division, which is a Minnesota, Iowa, Dakota Area.  
Thirty fourth Infantry Division.

NOGUCHI: That was infantry?

TAKEHARA: Yes, that was the Infantry Division, although I was assigned to the field artillery. And we kinda activated what is known as an antitank destroyer unit. And so, on December seventh, I was painting a chimney pipe, a simulator 37mm gun, because we didn't actually have any guns. So we were painting chimney pipes to mount on some sort of make-shift jeep-like vehicle. And the war started, December 7, 1941. Anyway, we kept on working. And I would say a month later I received my furlough, so I came home to Sacramento for two weeks.

NOGUCHI: When was that? What day?

TAKEHARA: I guess it must have been around sometime in January of '42.

NOGUCHI: So war was started, by then.

TAKEHARA: War was started, but no evacuation, yet.

NOGUCHI: When you were in Louisiana in the camp there, how did the Americans, the Caucasians, the GI's, react to you as a Nihonjin or as a Japanese?

TAKEHARA: Oh, no problem. I guess they knew all along. They were not any different.



NOGUCHI: There was no name calling, or any kind of racist remarks towards you. What about when you went to town or the civilian people that were in that area, did they react to you?

TAKEHARA: No, in fact the Iowa and Dakota people took care of me like I was another GI. No problem whatsoever. The only thing that we really got into an argument about one time, was when we saw the Negroes walking on the other side of the street, and they had to get in the back of the bus, and they had to go to a different theater through another door, and they were not allowed in a bar. But there were some Negroes that were from the North, and we were friends with them. And so when we all went into the bar, and they don't serve the Negro, so we tore up the bar, and that's the way it was. And I was one of the boys among the Caucasians that took part in these. [Laughter] "Warui yatsu." (Naughty boys)

NOGUCHI: Segregation didn't bother you as much as it did some of the others from the North.

TAKEHARA: I didn't know what segregation was until I was in. . . down deep South. And I didn't even know I was Nihonjin, until the newspaper started telling me I was Nihonjin. [Laughter]



- NOGUCHI: Then some of the headlines then when the war started, did you notice that they used the 4-letter word, the derogatory remark, that they used for the Japanese?
- TAKEHARA: Yes, that didn't bother me at all. Besides, I was getting my stripes every time I made my move. So I was treated pretty good. Or I treated them pretty good, one or the other.
- NOGUCHI: As far as reading the news media, the newspaper, when you read the headlines, what was your feelings when you read all these derogatory remarks?
- TAKEHARA: Well, when they made those derogatory remarks, I said, "those damn Japs" thinking that I was Caucasian. [Laughter] I mean I used "Japs" to mean Japan "Japs", not American people, Japanese. But I didn't have any problem with the Hakujin at all. Because I was the only Nihonjin in the whole Division, I think.
- NOGUCHI: How did the blacks react towards you, when you went into town? Did they look at you with scorn because you were among the Caucasians or Hakujins or did they look at you as something different from what they normally see?
- TAKEHARA: No, we didn't mingle with the southern blacks at all, hardly. The only people that we had was a couple of Negroes that was in another battalion that we happened to know or got to know after that riot we had. Not a riot, but



breaking up the bar, you know. Other than that, no problem. These were our responsibility.

NOGUCHI: So what happened after you went to the bar, and you tore the place up and. . .

TAKEHARA: Nothing. They were GIs.

NOGUCHI: The place wasn't off-limits to you then, huh?

TAKEHARA: No, no, no. But we used our \$19.00 a month. [Laughter]

NOGUCHI: Oh, I see. But you did get your licks in though, huh? Then from there where did you go?

TAKEHARA: Well, then the war started, and I was in the anti-tank battalion, and when I came home on a furlough, they gave me an extended six-day furlough because of travel time. That's how good my commander was. He gave me extra time. And when I came back, my whole unit was gone. They moved out of Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, to North Africa, so I didn't know where to go. So I went to one of the buildings there. Well, Camp Claiborne was tent city. And there was one building way up there where we used to have a USO. So on the way when I was walking down there, a jeep stopped and said, "Hey Tak, get in." And they said, "Hey congratulations, I hear you're a Corporal now." So I guess I just didn't think of me as too much of a Buddahead. But anyway, I got my Corporal stripe and they took me to another part of the camp and that's where we activated



634th Tank Destroyer Battalion. And from there, 634th Tank Destroyer Battalion, we moved as a cadre (instructors). We were the first tank battalion, tank destroyer battalion to be activated. So we went into Camp Hood, Texas. Camp Hood, Texas was under construction, so we bivouacked around the camp, outside the camp, until some of the buildings were completed. There we started our tank destroyer battalion, and all the equipment started coming in. Instead of having those tin helmets, we started getting the regular GI metal helmets. Remember the old tin helmets we used to have when we were in World War I? Well, we were still wearing those. And we were using 1903 rifles. But anyway, we gradually started getting new equipment. And in fact, the Tank Destroyer Battalion was one of the celebrated units, where we had all kinds of motorized vehicles. And I got in as a radioman, between my halftrack. . . . I was on a halftrack with a colonel as the officer, on the radio, talking to people on the airplane. The observation plane was more or less of an, what do you call that?

NOGUCHI: Observer.

TAKEHARA: Observer. And they radioed down to me and I would tell the officer. And in the meantime, I also had a typewriter there, and I used type as the secretary. But anyway, the camp finally got finished, so we were working in there.



And then they wanted to activate what was known as a ski troop, 10th Mountain Division. And I was one of the cadre to go as a ski instructor. From flat land of Texas to high Colorado mountain.

NOGUCHI: Did you know anything about skiing?

TAKEHARA: I didn't know dooley about skiing.

NOGUCHI: What was your MOS (Military Occupation Specialty) then?

TAKEHARA: My MOS is cadre (instructor). So that's when I got to become a. . .

[End Tape 1, Side 1]

[Begin Tape 1, Side 2]

NOGUCHI: Will you continue Paul?

TAKEHARA: Before I went to Camp Hale, Colorado, in the meantime, I did take OCS Training for the Air Force as a navigator. Seeing I was color blind, they said I'd make a good navigator. So I took a OCS test and I passed it. That's when I found out I was a "Jap". **Thumbs down!**

NOGUCHI: I should clarify to the people that OCS means Officers Candidate School. That means you're training to be an officer.

TAKEHARA: But that's when I found out that I was a "Jap", because they turned me down. In fact the War Department turned me down. Not the local people, but the War Department.

NOGUCHI: What year was this?



TAKEHARA: That was back in '42. But anyway, now that I knew that I was turned down, I proceeded to go with the cadre to Camp Hale, Colorado. However, nobody knew where Camp Hale, Colorado was. Because I was one of the early ones, like I said previously, Camp Hale, I mean, Camp Roberts, California was not even built yet. Camp Claiborne wasn't built yet. And Camp Hood wasn't built yet. And now I'm going to Camp Hale, Colorado and it wasn't built yet. But anyway, the best place to go they told me was to Camp Carson, Colorado. When I went to Camp Carson, Colorado, that's when I saw hundreds and hundreds of Japanese GIs. I got to know some of them real well. And their stripes were stripped and they were doing all the gardening and maintenance work around the place.

NOGUCHI: Did you meet men from the local area here?

TAKEHARA: Not from the local area, but I did make a lot of friends from California.

NOGUCHI: None of them were from the Florin area.

TAKEHARA: No, not to my knowledge. I didn't stay there that long anyway. I stayed there only four days. I was so accustomed to having jeeps and halftracks and motorcycles on demand, that anytime I wanted to go someplace in Camp Carson, they laughed at me, because I'd say, "Hey, I want a jeep to go to so and so." And they said, "What!" [Laughter]



But anyway, I reported to the Captain there and told them what the situation was, and they didn't know where it was exactly. So they called the War Department to find out where Camp Hale was. They told me it was in Aspen. So coming from Texas in my khaki, and going to Camp Hale, Colorado near Aspen in khaki, was like, I'll freeze to death. When I got off the train at Aspen, there was no camp yet. So, they told me, the people at the railroad station said there are some GIs at the WPA (Work Projects Administration) camp. So I proceeded to go to the WPA camp. I saw majors, and colonels, and generals there. And lieutenants. I was one of the few non-com officers, and I had no choice but to bunk with them; and fought fires with them; and played baseball with them; and played football with them for about four weeks. Then Camp Hale, Colorado finally opened up. And I went there as a ski instructor. However, I didn't know anything about skiing. In fact, all the people that came to Camp Hale, Colorado, were people from Alaska and volunteers--Norwegians and Swedish--and they knew how to ski. And I didn't know anything about skiing, but anyway here I was. [Laughter] But toward the end, I ended up at camp headquarters, and that's when I got my staff sergeant's rating. I got into the publications department, which is a very large



department. The people at Camp Carson that I knew started coming in to Camp Hale, Colorado. One of the fellows was Abe Fujii. I believe he was from Berkeley. He was among the volunteers into the 522nd Field Artillery, part of the 442. He was killed instantly. There were people like Tak Hattori, Frank Okada, Kenso Miyamoto. They were from Livingston, Los Angeles, Wyoming.

NOGUCHI: Were you in the same unit, or were you. . .

TAKEHARA: I was in the camp headquarters at the time, and they were in the personnel department. In fact, I got my tech sergeant's rating, five stripes. And I helped Tak Hattori, and he got his staff rating; and I helped Kenso Miyamoto and he got his tech rating; and Frank Okada from Los Angeles, I helped him get his tech, five stripes rating. We were the top non-commissioned officers of the corps. All the Buddaheads were in charge of the headquarters.

NOGUCHI: There's been so much said about the 100th Battalion and the 442, but none of this has ever been mentioned about Camp Hale or of our being there.

TAKEHARA: The people from various camps came through Camp Hale, Colorado to be, what do you call that repo-depot to get reassigned. We were more or less working as a reassignment camp. And we saw all the Japanese come in, and they were going to the 442 Battalion in Fort Benning, Georgia. And



we took care of them for reassignment. That's when I saw a lot of Japanese that I knew who went through to get reassignment then.

I was in charge of the publications department. The publications department had all kinds of secret documents and confidential documents. I was in charge of all that stuff. We had a safe about the size of half a building, like 20 X 20. Inside that safe that's when I was making copies of the secret and restricted documents so I could give it to the commanding officer, or whomever it concerned.

NOGUCHI: Did you have classified security clearance?

TAKEHARA: I don't know if I did or not. I think they were ignorant of the fact that I was Japanese. [Laughter] Well, actually, we were the GIs. You know what I mean.

NOGUCHI: But I think that they had enough confidence in you, that there would be no problem as far as security breach is so. . . . After all, you had the rank and the confidence, and probably had as much knowledge about the place as any of the other high ranking officers. I think they became very dependent on what you did, and what you knew.

TAKEHARA: That's the time, when I applied for warrant officer rank, and I had to go to Denver to get the warrant officer items, and get the pictures. They were getting all prepared for War Department approval. And after I passed the warrant



officer's test, like I said Abe Fujii got killed in action, and Frank Okada decided he wanted to go 442, to join the 442 group, so he left. And Tak Hattori decided he wanted to go to MIS. And here I was left alone. Ken Miyamoto went to 442 group, and the other Miyamoto, Norisata Miyamoto, he went to "No-no". He went to "No-no" group. And here I was left alone, so I decided I want to ship out, too. Not knowing where, but anyway I shipped out. I ended up near Camp Paris. Anyway, that's when I took infantry training for the first time.

NOGUCHI: Where's Camp Paris?

TAKEHARA: Camp Paris is somewhere in Arkansas. And then assuming that I had two or three years of training, they wanted to ship me out. So I got shipped out to point of debarkation. "Doko datta?" (Where was it?)

NOGUCHI: Camp Kilmer? That's in New Jersey.

TAKEHARA: Near New York.

NOGUCHI: That's near New York. They have all these GI training; that's where they ship out to Europe.

TAKEHARA: Anyway, I was in charge of all the service records. My MOS (Military Occupation Specialty) at the time was chief clerk. So I was in charge of all the service records and all the reports. And when we got on the ship, liberty ship, you know, one of those victory ships, I happened



to luck out. I got in my own cabin, and made a daily call to GI for clean up, my company's cleanup, you know. Tell them to clean up the aft or fore side or whatever, I didn't know which side was which, but anyway I had to announce the daily cleanup and exercise. And I took care of the records.

NOGUCHI: During the time you were in Colorado and Arkansas, then there was no racist or statements from the Caucasian GIs or any kind of reaction because of the war going good or bad in the Pacific?

TAKEHARA: Not too much, I don't think. In fact, if anybody gave us any problems, our friends in personnel section—Frank Okada was in charge of personnel section—and he would redline the payroll of that certain person. And Tak Hattori was in charge of officer's personnel section. And if the officer were getting riled up, he would get redlined for payroll.

NOGUCHI: So you guys pretty much had control of the overall situation. . . .

TAKEHARA: Overall, yes. So if the MP ever catches us for taking off, you know, like early Friday morning to Denver, and report us, then we'd take his name, and next month he wouldn't be paid, because he got redlined for some reason or another. [Laughter] Whereas, in my department which



is publications, which is a very important department, if they want any form printed or something like that, if they don't behave, they'd never get their thing printed. Especially the MPs. They got wise to us. And they never bothered us. So I don't know if they had any hatred or not. We played our part and they played their part.

NOGUCHI: Easier to control your part for your own personal benefits.

TAKEHARA: But anyway, just before I went to Camp Kilmer (Port of Debarkation), that's when I married Emmie. Just before I went.

NOGUCHI: Oh. Where did you meet her then?

TAKEHARA: I met her in Denver, Colorado. And then when I was in Texas, I called her to meet me in Kansas City. And that's when we got married in Kansas City. And my cousin Warren, who was going to dental school at the time, he was my best man, and his wife was the bridesmaid. The justice of peace, he cost me six bucks. But not having any money, my cousin paid for the reception for the four of us.

NOGUCHI: So where did Emmie stay then?

TAKEHARA: Oh, she went back to Chicago. She was working there.

NOGUCHI: The Tachibana family was already in Chicago then?

TAKEHARA: No, the Tachibana family was in Colorado. They never went to camp. They were down in southern Colorado, their relative had a large vegetable farm.



- NOGUCHI: Was it in Durango, Colorado?
- TAKEHARA: No. It was a hell hole, I heard. They had cauliflowers.
- NOGUCHI: So Emmie stayed in Chicago during the war then while you went away.
- TAKEHARA: I met her in Denver, and she moved to Chicago, and when I was ready to go overseas, we got married in Kansas City.
- NOGUCHI: How did you meet Emmie, then?
- TAKEHARA: How did I meet her?
- NOGUCHI: Was it a whirlwind romance?
- TAKEHARA: I met her at a dance.
- NOGUCHI: How long did it take you to propose to her then?
- TAKEHARA: About two years. I called her on the phone to meet me in Kansas City. So after we got married, we honeymooned in Minnesota, then back to Chicago. I left her in Chicago and I went overseas.
- NOGUCHI: What were you doing in Minnesota? Just the honeymoon?
- TAKEHARA: Yes, honeymoon. And my cousin Danny Takehara from Hawaii was there in MIS school.
- NOGUCHI: How was the travel situation during that time in the forties? Was there any restrictions because of you being a Nihonjin.
- TAKEHARA: You mean furlough? I took many furloughs because I was in the personnel department. So it was easy for me to get a furlough.



- NOGUCHI: So you made your own. . .
- TAKEHARA: I made my own furlough. And I always went to the air field on the Air Force base, and took the emergency flight out, both ways. The furlough paper. You make your own furlough paper and put that "emergency" on there and you get an emergency furlough. You get to fly right out. So there was no problem.
- NOGUCHI: [Laughter] You knew your way around. And took advantage of it. There's nothing wrong with that.
- TAKEHARA: So I went to Poston to see our parents, and I went to Tule Lake to see my brother.
- NOGUCHI: Which one of. . .
- TAKEHARA: Herb and Jim's families.
- NOGUCHI: How did they end up in Tule? Because of the boundary?
- TAKEHARA: No, no. They were all in Poston. And I think there was a questionnaire. I think they said, "No-no."
- NOGUCHI: During the segregation time. So two of your brothers went back to Tule as a "No-no".
- TAKEHARA: And the rest of the family stayed in Poston.
- NOGUCHI: And your parents. How was their health during that time in camp?
- TAKEHARA: Oh, fine.
- NOGUCHI: And what was their feeling of their sons going back to Tule Lake? Do you have any recollections? Did they talk about it or anything?



TAKEHARA: I don't know. But anyway, they all came back home after the war, or during the war, I guess.

NOGUCHI: And then you went overseas, and by that time. . . . What year was that, that you went overseas?

TAKEHARA: That was early '45.

NOGUCHI: You went over as a replacement unit for the. . .

TAKEHARA: I took 800 and some odd soldiers to the replacement depot to Lemoore, France. And then from Lemoore, France, I was a platoon sergeant and our company started going northward toward Germany. And we hit the first borderline at Longshime, Germany. That's where we stayed about a week for rest period. And then we took that forty and eight (forty men and eight horses) train going north again, and I forgot the name of the town, but anyway it was right near Schwabach. This was a couple of weeks later, we moved over to Wiesbaden and stayed there for a couple of weeks. We were on the outskirts of Frankfort and we were prepared to go to Rhine Valley. Well then a month afterwards, the war ended.

NOGUCHI: So when you were on your way to the front lines is when the war ended.

TAKEHARA: Well, we were in the front line, but there wasn't too much action where we were located.

NOGUCHI: Winding down.



TAKEHARA: Yes.

NOGUCHI: Did you meet any of the post members?

TAKEHARA: No, I was a lone GI, a lone Buddahead all the way through. And later on when we were in Rhine Valley, we saw a few Hawaiian boys come in. I think there were some local Californians came in it, but I didn't know them. Because I had my own platoon and I was pretty busy. We taped our wristwatch and we smoked our eyeglasses.

NOGUCHI: Why was that?

TAKEHARA: Shiny. To keep it from. . . . We taped our. . .

NOGUCHI: Oh, you were up in the front lines, by then. So how long were you overseas then?

TAKEHARA: Well, I was discharged from military service and came home December twentieth or thereabouts.

NOGUCHI: So you had approximately a year.

TAKEHARA: Almost a year, yes. And just before I came home, my warrant officer paper caught up with me. "You stay another year you could be a warrant officer or you could go home right now." So I went home.

NOGUCHI: You didn't give it a second thought.

TAKEHARA: But if I had taken a warrant officer I would have. . .

NOGUCHI: Go back for reassignment, huh?

TAKEHARA: No, no. I would have been discharged as a warrant officer. But I guess my thought was wrong. So it took me about



a month to come home. On a liberty ship, or a victory ship, the S.S. Ward.

NOGUCHI: Where were you discharged then?

TAKEHARA: Camp Beale.

NOGUCHI: Oh, Camp Beale.

TAKEHARA: Isn't Beale right here?

NOGUCHI: You went by train I assume from either Camp Kilmer. . .

TAKEHARA: Yes, from back east. I was still in charge of some members going to California or thereabouts. And so I had the service records and everything that I had to turn in at Camp Beale. But anyway, I had about fifteen, twenty GIs, GIs that were going home to California. And I took care of them. All their travel papers.

NOGUCHI: Then what did you find when you were coming back?  
Where was Emmie, still in Chicago?

TAKEHARA: I wrote to Emmie, I would say back in August or thereabouts, to go home to Sacramento, to my place, which she did.

NOGUCHI: So she was one of the first ones back in Sacramento then.

TAKEHARA: No. My parents were moved in, back in '44.

NOGUCHI: They could come back in '44? I didn't know that.

TAKEHARA: Oh yeah. I made arrangements with War Relocation Authority, and I got them out. My dad was about the first to come home to Sacramento. I talked to War Department, WRA, and then in the meantime before I went overseas, I came home



to Sacramento. I negotiated with Shell Oil Company to put some propane gas in our tank, which they refused. So I went to Standard Oil Company and they gave me a tankful of gas (500 gallons) on credit. And I got everything all set up so they could come home.

NOGUCHI: To your original home. It was vacant.

TAKEHARA: In Sacramento. Well, it wasn't vacant. There were some boarders. I told Fairbairns to get them out. And so they did. Then I went overseas after that.

NOGUCHI: So your dad was one of the earliest to come back home from Poston.

TAKEHARA: In fact alot of people in that area stayed at my parents' place before they went back to their homes. Like the Kawamuras and. . .

NOGUCHI: So they went back to that land that sits right on the corner of Jackson and Bradshaw?

So going on to. . . from Camp Beale then you came straight home?

TAKEHARA: Emmie met me in Camp Beale.

NOGUCHI: So as far as coming back to a place to live then, it had been pretty well established by your parents, so it was no problem.

So what was the first thing that you did when you got back to Sacramento? Did you start a business, or did you start farming, or. . .



TAKEHARA: Well, I had nothing particular in mind to do anything actually. I didn't want to farm. I never did farm too well.

NOGUCHI: So what year was that then? '45?

TAKEHARA: Well I came home in '45, December.

NOGUCHI: So it would be '46 then, beginning of '46.

TAKEHARA: About mid '46, I decided to start a grocery store. On the corner of Jackson and Bradshaw. And that's what is known as Walsh Station. Grocery store. And so being without any money, we made. . . Emmie and I both made bricks. Concrete bricks. Mixed our own cement and made bricks. We made about, oh I don't know, a couple of thousand, I guess, until we couldn't do no more. So we bought the rest. And then we made the grocery store out of it. The front side we had the groceries for sale, and the back was our living quarters. And we did that for about three, four years, I guess. Well, we were actually in the grocery business for five years.

NOGUCHI: What year did Jerry come along?

TAKEHARA: Jerry came on December 7, 1946.

[End Tape 1, Side 2]

[Begin Tape 2, Side 3]

NOGUCHI: The Oral Interview with Paul Takehara and Kinya Noguchi.  
As we have stated on the previous tape, Paul, you are now



back in Sacramento and have started a grocery store on the corner of Jackson Road and Bradshaw. And your first son was born.

What happened after that that you can recall in your life.

TAKEHARA: Well we had a fairly good business. And my son number two and daughter were born within that period. A year and a half apart.

NOGUCHI: And I've got to interrupt you Paul, but what year did the tragedy take place in your family?

TAKEHARA: What tragedy?

NOGUCHI: Didn't you lose a brother?

TAKEHARA: Oh.

NOGUCHI: Do you recall the impact it had on the family. What year was that? Was that in the forties, or was that in the fifties?

TAKEHARA: Well sometime in 1952, my brother Tom lost three children, Daryl, Russell, and Alvin in a fire; and I lost my brother Herbert in January 1958 with cancer. He was forty nine at the time.

NOGUCHI: Was he the oldest in the family?

TAKEHARA: Yes. He was the oldest in the family.

NOGUCHI: How old were your parents when they passed on? What year was that? Was that after the tragedy?

TAKEHARA: No, before the tragedy.



NOGUCHI: Your parents were how old when they passed away?

TAKEHARA: Well, my dad was. . . . When Jerry started walking, so it'll be sometime in 1948.

NOGUCHI: How old was he?

TAKEHARA: Seventy two? And my mother passed away ten years later. After five years in the grocery business, I leased the store. I built another store next door, and I leased it. And then I built the service station, and I leased it.

NOGUCHI: Leased it.

TAKEHARA: Yes, Fred Kunisaki and Ted Kido. Walsh Station Automotive. And then after that I built a variety store together with a beauty shop and barber shop. I ran the variety store for about five years. And then I leased it after that. And then I came into the insurance business, and I've been in the insurance business ever since.

NOGUCHI: Was Emmie involved in that little shopping mall that you had there?

TAKEHARA: Sure she helped me all the way.

NOGUCHI: Did she specialize in anything?

TAKEHARA: No. She sells. Just sales. Well, I wouldn't call it a shopping mall, it's a little. . .

NOGUCHI: Shopping center. In those days it was a shopping center. when you think about it.

TAKEHARA: All right.



NOGUUCHI: So first it was Jerry, and then Steve, and then Paula.

TAKEHARA: Right. They're about a year and a half apart.

NOGUUCHI: After you went into the insurance business, where did you start? In that little shopping center or. . .

TAKEHARA: No. I started up in Fulton Avenue.

NOGUUCHI: Did you have any problems with your business as far as getting the people?

TAKEHARA: No. No problem whatsoever. Just worked at it.

NOGUUCHI: Who were most of your clients then at that time?

TAKEHARA: Most of my clients were 'hakujins'.

NOGUUCHI: Oh, they were Caucasians. Business for personal. . .?

TAKEHARA: Personal, mostly personal. People in that area. On Fulton Avenue.

NOGUUCHI: So at that time when you started in your insurance business was what year then?

TAKEHARA: I believe it was fifty eight or fifty nine.

NOGUUCHI: Oh, it was after the Korean War then?

TAKEHARA: Oh, sure.

NOGUUCHI: People were pretty much. . . had a better understanding . . . a generation that had racial feelings were not involved in your insurance business.

TAKEHARA: No, there was no such thing as racial there.

NOGUUCHI: That's good. Then what year did you get involved with the Florin JACL?



TAKEHARA: Well, let's see. I was in the Florin JACL prior to the war. But after I got back, I guess I got kinda active some time in the seventies.

NOGUCHI: You were with the VFW what year then?

TAKEHARA: I was a charter member.

NOGUCHI: Oh, you were a charter member of the VFW.

TAKEHARA: That was what, '47?

NOGUCHI: Gee. . . I think it was '47.

TAKEHARA: Well that was when Mr. Alva Fleming came to my store, grocery store that I was running, together with somebody else, and wanted to know if we should start a VFW. I said, "Yes" and directed him to Willie Sakai and Frank Yoshimura, to ask for their opinion and that's how the VFW got started.

NOGUCHI: Oh, so you were one of the original charter members.

TAKEHARA: I was a charter member.

NOGUCHI: Were you active at that time when. . .

TAKEHARA: I was active the first year, and then the grocery store. . .

NOGUCHI: Took up more of your time.

TAKEHARA: Yes, priority. Work comes before. . .

NOGUCHI: Pleasure.

TAKEHARA: Yes. I stayed away about seven, eight years, I guess. Well, not exactly stayed away, but I was inactive for about seven, eight years.



- NOGUUCHI: Then you didn't have to go through the chairs then. Is that right. So who was Commander Carlson's ??? being elected commander?
- TAKEHARA: That's a good question,. Who was it?
- NOGUUCHI: So you were one of the earlier ones then.
- TAKEHARA: Frank Yoshimura? No he was after me. I was Commander in 1954-1955.
- NOGUUCHI: So there are quite a few who are no longer with us. . .
- TAKEHARA: Anyway, I was about the eighth.
- NOGUUCHI: Commander.
- TAKEHARA: Yes. Because I really didn't know what I was doing. I happened to go to the meeting one time, and I was elected Commander. [Laughter]
- NOGUUCHI: That's interesting, because I thought that it was in rare occasions that they had a person going, that a commander was not going through the chairs.
- TAKEHARA: Yes. I was a Commander first, and then I became quartermaster and other offices later.
- NOGUUCHI: So did you know that the changes or some of the things that were involved as far as the VFW?
- TAKEHARA: It's more regimented now.
- NOGUUCHI: Would you say it's more family oriented now? Rather than just a men's organization? Where they had a lot of camaraderie. Had some of those pretty wild parties.



TAKEHARA: Not mentioning on the tape, that is. [Laughter]

NOGUCHI: Then getting back to. . . .

Were you involved in any kind of political activity besides the Florin JACL? Politically were you involved with any of the state or the national level?

TAKEHARA: No.

NOGUCHI: You stated that around 1970 you became actively involved with the Florin JACL. What were some of the projects that you were involved in? Were you the president about that time?

TAKEHARA: I've been president about three or four times, because there weren't too many members. We had picnics and monthly meetings.

NOGUCHI: Were you involved with Mary Tsukamoto in her project?

TAKEHARA: Such as?

NOGUCHI: I think she started with the education in schools first, and then I think it was in the early eighties or late seventies that she became very much involved with the Florin JACL and the redress and reparations. . .

TAKEHARA: Oh, yes, yes, yes.

NOGUCHI: . . .which came about I think in the early eighties or late seventies. At that time then, is that when you got involved, actively involved with the Florin JACL?



TAKEHARA: I had the newsletter. And I've been treasurer and the president several times. Yes, I was helping out on LEC (Legislative Education Committee of the national JACL) and later on the redress, and the letter writing.

NOGUCHI: So did you. . .

TAKEHARA: I'm not active. I'm just a follower. A good follower.

NOGUCHI: Well when you get involved with the many activities and the offices that you have within the Florin JACL, you just can't say you're a follower. You were totally involved. How did you feel about that, reparations and redress, as far as the goals and objectives of that?

TAKEHARA: Definitely needed it. Oh sure. It's about time that something was done about it.

NOGUCHI: Did you have a lot of personal feelings about the matter, as far as you personally?

TAKEHARA: Well, no, because I wasn't too involved in the camp thing. I was a GI most of the time, and I wasn't involved in relocation or thing like that. So I don't know too much about it, except what I hear. And what I see my parents went through. But personally, I was not involved. So the only time I was involved was when I took a furlough and visited the various camps.

NOGUCHI: So as far as your personal feelings is involved regarding the redress and reparations, then it's not as intense as



those who had to go through it then. But you had the feeling that this was needed and you supported it, and took an active part in it.

TAKEHARA: Yes. Oh, I heartily supported it.

NOGUCHI: It was a very successful program. And it was because of your effort and your support and getting involved with Mary Tsukamoto and her redress and reparations program that it became very successful. I think Florin JACL played a major role in getting this thing established and very successfully. Part of our daily lives that. . .

TAKEHARA: Yes, I take my hat off to Mary Tsukamoto for her. . .

NOGUCHI: What a dedication, though.

TAKEHARA: Dedication is right.

NOGUCHI: It's just total dedication.

TAKEHARA: We are fortunate to have somebody like that in our organization. Or any organization.

NOGUCHI: The part that the Florin JACL played and your input as far as the editor. . . . I used to read all the articles. I do get the Florin newsletter, the Florin JACL newsletter. And being involved with the Sacramento JACL and the VFW, I can rightfully say that you in Florin have been totally involved in this, and have done a tremendous job. And I would like to have this recognized in this tape as your contribution to Florin's project and the many others that



have started in Florin, and have made it very successful.

Now what I'd like to do is to kinda conclude this with . . . How did this affect your family as far as your two sons and your daughter? How did you feel.

TAKEHARA: Remember when we first came back and when the kids were young, we didn't talk too much about the war. We didn't talk too much about going to Japanese school, either, because it was sort of normal at the time. That was back in '46, '47, '48. There was no such thing as Japanese as far as my children were concerned. Like my kids say, when another kid asked my older son, "Who are you?" Then he would say, "My name is Jerry Takehara." "Are you a Jap?" "No, I'm Jerry Takehara." Stuff like that. So they were not aware that they were Japanese. They were just Americans. Now they know what the story is because of all the releases, press releases, you know. But at the time, they were just American kids. That's all they were.

NOGUCHI: Because of your playing such an active role in this Japanese community, Florin community, has this kinda carried over with your sons and daughter, too? Have they kinda followed in your footsteps to take an active role in the community?

TAKEHARA: Well, they took active roles in church, as far as that goes, yes. And then active part in. . . . Jerry, he joined



the Sacramento JACL, because everything is Sacramento. He is Sacramento now, you know. He doesn't know Florin. So he joined the Sacramento JACL. He was president of the JACL one year. Of course, Paula, when she got married, she left the area. She's highly involved in other activities in their school and their church. And Steve, of course, having moved out, and their children are with the Christian Church, also.

NOGUCHI: Did they talk about what had happened to the Japanese community as they were growing up, as to going to camp, and the way they were treated during World War II?.

TAKEHARA: No, they didn't. They read alot. Let's put it that way.

NOGUCHI: They didn't ask any questions. They didn't ask you about your military duties overseas?

TAKEHARA: No. Somehow they knew already.

NOGUCHI: So they were pretty well in their daily lives kept up on what was going on without even asking about them. Which means that they did show alot of interest in what had happened to you during the war.

Would you like to add anything else that you feel as being of some importance to what has happened to you for now and after? What do you see that has happened in the past that you recollect that you would like to contribute to this Oral History Project?



TAKEHARA: No.

NOGUCHI: Ah, don't say that, Paul. There must have been something exciting besides that you didn't shoot anybody and nobody shot at you, huh?.

Well, Paul I would like to thank you very much on behalf of the Oral History Project and the Florin JACL Chapter and this concludes the Oral History interview with Paul Takehara and Kinya Noguchi. Thank you very much, Paul.

[End Tape 2, Side 3]